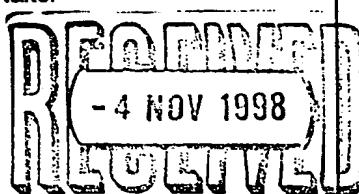


PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY

To:

DEMPSTER, Benjamin, John; Naftel
Withers & Rogers
4 Dyers Buildings
Holborn
London EC1N 2JT
GRANDE BRETAGNE



PCT

WRITTEN OPINION
(PCT Rule 66)

Date of mailing
(day/month/year) **02. 11. 98**

Applicant's or agent's file reference BD/EN/5-8	REPLY DUE	within 2 month(s) from the above date of mailing
International application no. PCT/GB97/02940	International filing date (day/month/year) 27/10/1997	Priority date (day/month/year) 28/10/1996
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC F04D19/00		
Applicant ELTA FANS LTD et al.		

1. This written opinion is the **second** drawn up by this International Preliminary Examining Authority.
2. This report contains indications relating to the following items:
 - I Basis of the opinion
 - II Priority
 - III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
 - IV Lack of unity of invention
 - V Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
 - VI Certain documents cited
 - VII Certain defects in the international application
 - VIII Certain observations on the international application

3. The applicant is hereby invited to reply to this opinion.

When? See the time limit indicated above. The applicant may, before the expiration of that time limit, request this Authority to grant an extension, see Rule 66.2(d).

How? By submitting a written reply, accompanied, where appropriate, by amendments, according to Rule 66.3. For the form and the language of the amendments, see Rules 66.8 and 66.9.

Also: For an additional opportunity to submit amendments; see Rule 66.4.
For the examiner's obligation to consider amendments and / or arguments, see Rule 66.4bis.
For an informal communication with the examiner, see Rule 66.6.

If no reply is filed, the international preliminary examination report will be established on the basis of this opinion.

4. The final date by which the international preliminary examination report must be established according to Rule 69.2 is: **28/02/1999**

Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority



European Patent Office
D-80298 Munich
Tel. (+49-89) 2399-0, Tx: 523656 epmu d
Fax: (+49-89) 2399-4465

Authorized officer / Examiner
Lord, G

Formalities officer (incl. extension of time limits)
Murphy-Minehane, B
Telephone No. (+49-89) 2399-2753



I. Basis of the opinion

1. This opinion has been drawn on the basis of (*substitute sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this opinion as "originally filed"*):

Description, pages:

1,2,5,6 as originally filed

3,4 as received on 23/10/1998 with letter of 20/10/1998

Claims, No.:

1-11 as received on 23/10/1998 with letter of 20/10/1998

Drawings, sheets:

1/1 as originally filed

2. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- the description, pages:
- the claims, Nos.:
- the drawings, sheets:

3. This opinion has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)):

4. Additional observations, if necessary:

V. Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-11	Yes
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-11	Yes
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-11	Yes

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

VII. Certain defects in the international application

The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted:

see separate sheet

Section V

1. The invention is an axial or mixed flow fan.
2. The nearest prior art document is FR-A-1 513 039, which shows a fan of this kind.
3. The object of the invention is to improve the power consumption characteristic of the fan.
4. This is achieved, according to claim 1, by a particular shape of blade. The shape defined is not disclosed in the prior art and the requirements of Article 33(1) PCT are, therefore, fulfilled.
5. The dependent claims define further embodiments of the invention of claim 1, and the subject matter of these claims therefore also meets the requirements of Article 33(1) PCT.

Section VII

6. To meet the requirements of Rule 5.1(a)(ii) PCT, at least the document mentioned above should be identified in the description and the relevant background art disclosed therein should be briefly discussed.
7. To meet the requirements of Rule 6.3(b) PCT independent claim 1 should be cast in the two part form, with those features which in combination are part of the prior art being placed in the preamble.
8. Reference signs in parentheses should be inserted in the claims to increase their intelligibility, Rule 6.2(b) PCT.